



Department
for Education

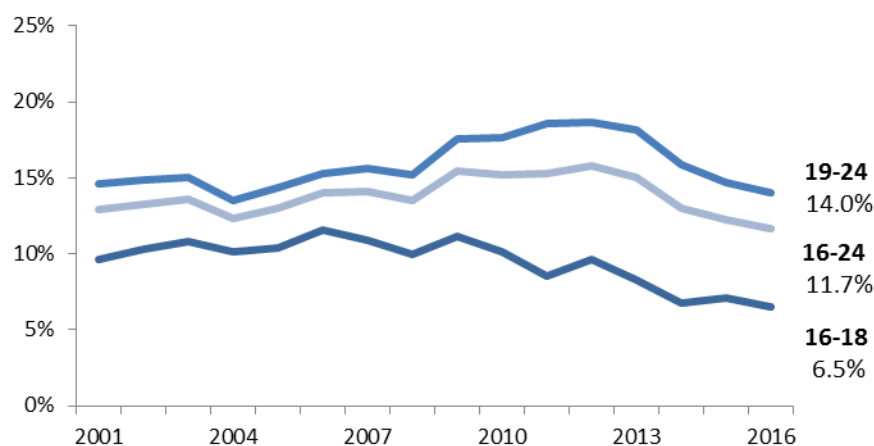
NEET Statistics Quarterly Brief January to March 2016, England



SFR 16/2016: 26 May 2016

The proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) fell across all summary age groups.

January to March NEET rate: England



Source: Labour Force Survey

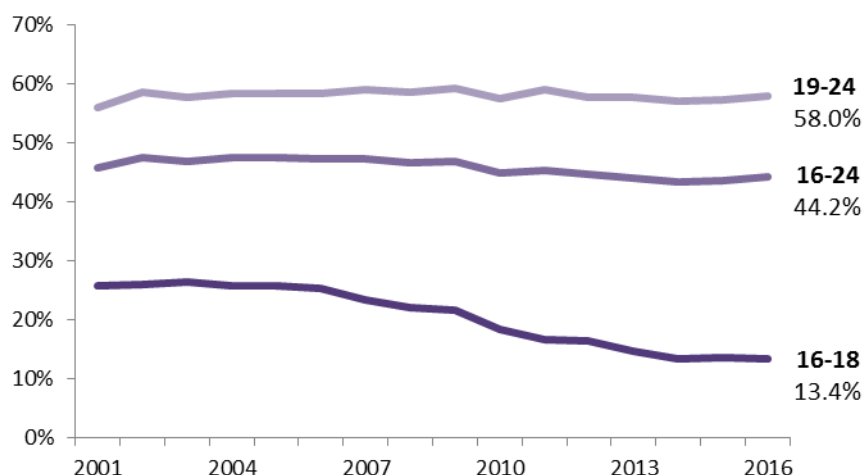
The 16-18 NEET rate was 6.5% in January to March 2016, down 0.6 percentage points from 2015.

Over the same period the 19-24 NEET rate fell 0.7 percentage points (to 14.0%) and the overall 16-24 rate fell by 0.6 percentage points (to 11.7%).

The 16-18 and 16-24 rates are the lowest January to March figures since comparable data began in 2001.

The proportion of young people not in education or training (NET) was flat for 16-18 year olds but rose for all other summary age groups.

January to March NET rate: England



Source: Labour Force Survey

The proportion of 16-18 year olds NET was roughly unchanged between January to March 2015 and 2016 (it fell by 0.1 percentage points to 13.4%).

The 19-24 NET rate rose by 0.6 percentage points (to 58.0%) and the overall 16-24 rose by 0.7 percentage points (to 44.2%).

Note that for the summary groups referred to above, none of the annual changes between 2015 and 2016 in NEET and NET were statistically significant at the 95% level, although many comparisons over longer periods will be significant.

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About this release

This statistical first release (SFR) provides the most timely statistics on young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and young people not in education or training (NET).

The data covers England and is based on academic age. Trends are assessed by comparing the current time period with the same time period in the previous year to account for seasonal effects.

The ONS releases NEET estimates on the same day as this release but their figures cover the UK, are based on calendar age and are seasonally adjusted.

Three data sources are used to publish this SFR:

- Quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Statistical First Release (SFR) 'Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England'
- Local Authorities' Client Caseload Information System (CCIS)

In this publication

The following tables are published alongside the SFR:

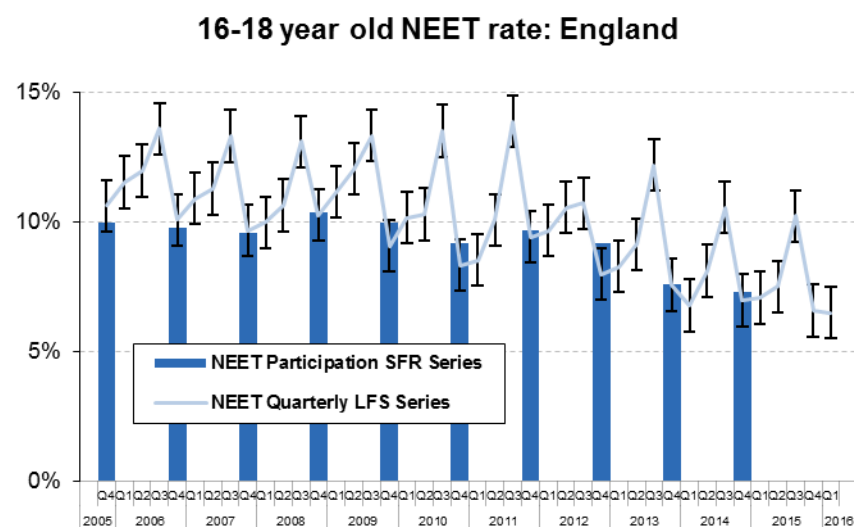
- NEET and NET estimates from the LFS (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET estimates from the Participation SFR (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET estimates from CCIS data (excel.xls)
- NEET estimates by region and gender from the LFS for: 16- 24, 18- 24 and 19-24 year-olds (excel.xls)
- National NEET estimates from the LFS for all age groups(excel.xls)
- NEET estimates from the LFS by age and gender and labour market status (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET changes due to reweighting (excel.xls)
- Underlying data (open format .csv and metadata .txt)

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at Post16.STATISTICS@education.gsi.gov.uk

1. NEET quarterly LFS series (last updated May 2016)

Figure 1: NEET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jan-Mar 2016



Source: Source: Participation SFR and Labour Force Survey

Note: Bars around data points indicate approximate 95% confidence intervals

The 16-18 year old trend shows seasonal patterns that reflect the academic year: lower rates in autumn (October to December) followed by a gradual rise in spring and early summer (January to June) with a peak in late summer (July to September).

The proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET has decreased. Compared to the January to March period last year, the rate fell 0.6 percentage points to 6.5%.

The fall against the previous year is not statistically significant but the rate is the lowest comparable figure since consistent data began in 2001 and is 5.0 percentage points lower than the high point of 11.5% in 2006.

There was a slight fall in the proportion of 17 year olds who were NEET in January to March 2016. Their rate fell by 0.2 percentage points (to 5.4%) compared to 2015. The proportion of 18 year olds NEET fell by 3.1 percentage points to 10.8% over the same period. These falls at 17 and 18 offset an increase in the 16 year old NEET rate, which rose by 1.8 percentage points to 3.4%, reversing the large fall that was seen at age 16 between 2014 and 2015.

It should be noted that sample sizes in the Labour Force Survey are small for individual age cohorts, so sampling variation is large and caution should be taken in interpreting changes over the short term, particularly when the characteristic of interest is rare, such as the NEET rate at 16 and 17.

Figure 2: NEET rates for different age cohorts: England 2014 - 2016

	January to March 2014	January to March 2015	January to March 2016	% point change from Jan-Mar 2015 to Jan-Mar 2016
Age 16	3.2%	1.6%	3.4%	1.8ppts*
Age 17	4.6%	5.7%	5.4%	-0.2ppts
Age 18	12.6%	13.9%	10.8%	-3.1ppts
Age 16-18	6.8%	7.1%	6.5%	-0.6ppts
Age 19-24	15.9%	14.7%	14.0%	-0.7ppts
Age 16-24	13.0%	12.3%	11.7%	-0.6ppts

Source: Labour Force Survey

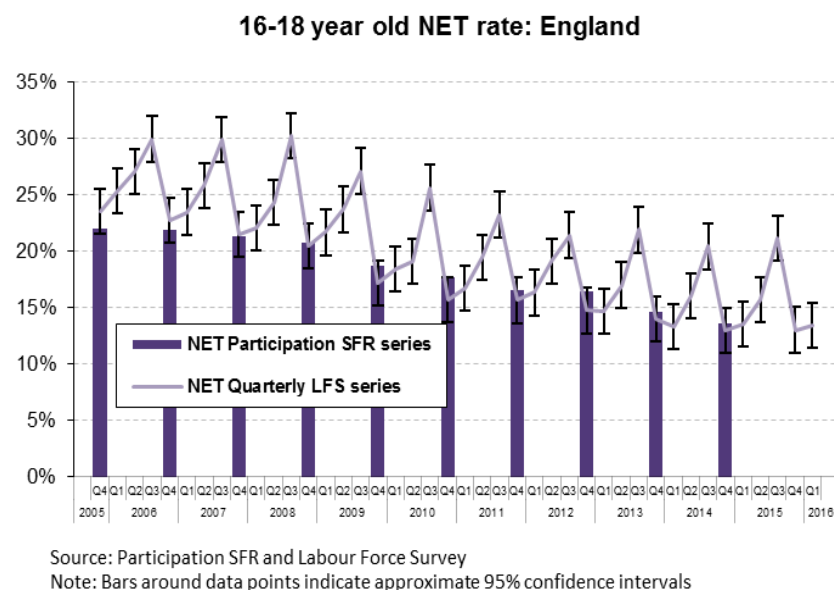
Note: * - Change is statistically significant

The fall in the NEET rate for the overall 16-18 group was the result of an increase in the employment rate for those not in education or training.

The employment rate of the NET group rose by 3.9 percentage points in the last year to 51.5%. This is the highest comparable rate since January to March 2008.

2. NET quarterly LFS series (last updated May 2016)

Figure 3: NET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jan-Mar 2016



The proportion of 16-18 year olds NET was roughly unchanged – it decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 13.4% compared to the same period last year. This was 13.0 percentage points lower than the peak of 26.4% in 2003.

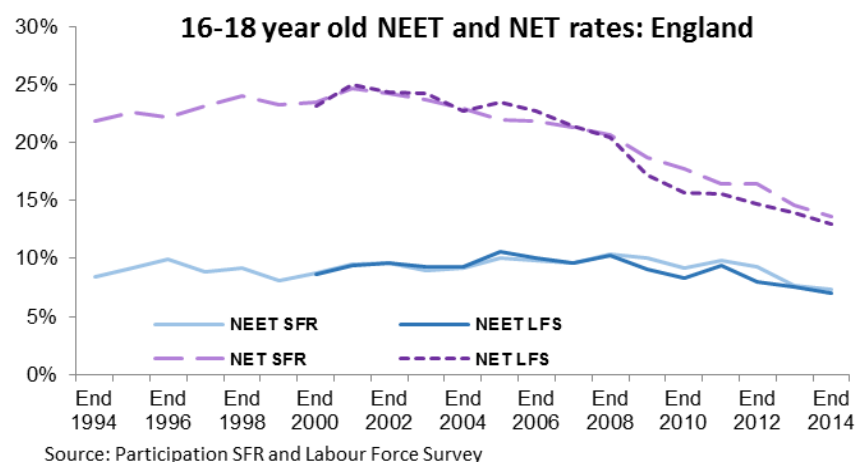
There was an increase at age 16, where the rate rose by 2.2 percentage points (to 4.0%) compared to 2015. This follows a large fall in the NET rate at age 16 between 2014 and 2015 (from 3.5% to 1.8%).

The increase at age 16 was offset by decreases at age 17 (down 0.4 percentage point to 8.9%) and age 18 (down 1.8 percentage points to 27.6%).

The change at age 16 was statistically significant.

3. NEET Participation SFR series (last updated August 2015)

Figure 4: NEET historical series for 16-18 year olds: England, end 1994 - end 2014



Understanding the historical trends in NEET rates is an important part of placing current performance in perspective.

Figures in this release should be considered alongside those from the participation SFR which is the DfE's definitive measure of participation for 16-18 year olds.

Historically the 16-18 NEET rate tended to fluctuate at around 8-10%, but since 2008 both measures have shown a downward trend.

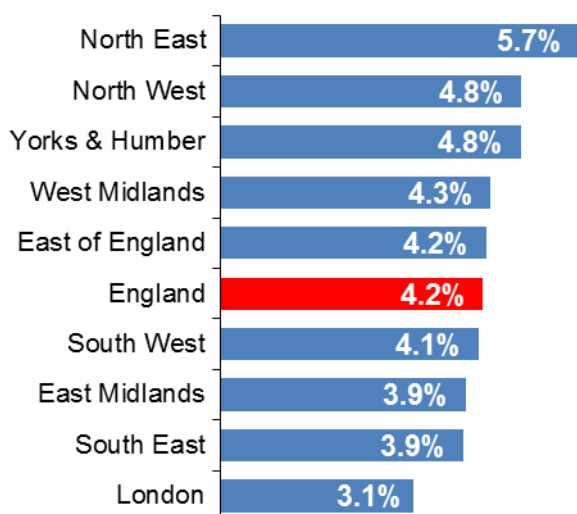
The latest Participation SFR NET rate, for end 2014, was 13.6%, a fall of 1.1 percentage points from end 2013. This is the lowest comparable figure since consistent data began in 1994.

Between end 2013 and end 2014 the proportion of 16-18 year olds participating in education and training increased from 85.4% to 86.4%. Over the same period, the employment rate of the 16-18 year olds not in education or training fell slightly from 47.1% to 46.3%. The result of these two factors is that the proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET at the end of 2014 decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 7.3%.

4. Regional NEET (last updated May 2016)

Figure 5: Regional NEET, age 16-18: England, Nov 2015-Jan 2016 average

NEET rate 16-18 year olds: England, End 2015



Source: Client Caseload Information System

The regional picture on 16-18 NEET is taken from [Local Authorities' Client Caseload Information System \(CCIS\)](#), published in April 2016.

CCIS data indicates that the northern English regions have higher NEET rates, i.e. North East, North West, and Yorkshire and the Humber. In comparison, London, South East and East Midlands have the lowest NEET rates.

Note that Local Authority CCIS data are published annually and tend to show a lower percentage NEET than either the Participation SFR or LFS data sources. In addition, regional NEET estimates for 16-24, 18-24 and 19-24 year olds summary age groups based on the LFS are published as supplementary tables alongside this Quarterly Brief.

5. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics [website](#).

National tables

Table 1 NEET estimates from the LFS, Participation SFR and CCIS data, England

Table 2 NET estimates from the LFS, Participation SFR and CCIS data, England

Table 3 NEET estimates 16 to 24 by region and gender

Table 4 NEET estimates 18 to 24 by region and gender

Table 5 NEET estimates 19 to 24 by region and gender

Table 6 NEET time series for England

Table 7 NEET estimates by labour market status

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

Labour Force Survey (LFS) datasets are routinely reweighted in line with population estimates. In May 2016 a new weighting variable was introduced, PWT16, to LFS datasets from July - September 2012 onwards. More information about the impact of the reweighting on the NEET and NET rates is available in an additional spreadsheet published with this [January to March 2016 quarterly brief](#).

The PWT16 weights reflect the most recent mid-year population estimates for England and Wales, released by the Office for National Statistics on 25th June 2015.

ONS have produced an assessment of the likely impact the 2014 mid-year estimates will have on the will have on the the headline LFS aggregates [here](#).

6. Further information is available

Wales	<p>The Welsh Assembly Government (WG) publishes an annual SFR produced in similar what to DfE's Participation SFR. The Participation of Young People in Education and the Labour Market is the regarded as the definitice measure of NEET estimates in Wales. It covers those in academic age 16-18 and 19-24.</p> <p>The WG also publishes NEET figures based on the Annual Population Survey (APS) which is similar the the LFS data used in this publication. It covers adademic age 16-18 and 19-24.</p> <p>WG also published local area estimates of NEET which looks at pupil destinations based on the Careers Wales Survey. These are based on interviews done in October following Year 11.</p>
Scotland	<p>The Scottish Government (SG) publishes an annual SFR based on the Annual Population Survey (APS) Local Area Labour Markets in Scotland: Statistics from the Annual Population Survey 2014 provides national NEET estimates that cover actual age 16-19.</p> <p>The SG also published Annual school leaver statistics which are used to give the proportion of young people in 'positive destinations'. These NEET estimates include some young people in part-time education. The coverage is actual age 16-19.</p> <p>SG also published a combination of DWP benefits data and school leaver destinations that provide local NEET estimates.</p>
ONS	<p>Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) statistics for young people not in full-time education and not in employment -Table 14 from the Labour Market Statistics bulletin. Part of wider labour market statistics; rolling 3-month average both seasonally-adjusted and not seasonally-adjusted; roughly equivalent to NEET but will include some young people in part-time education. ONS statistical bulletin: UK Labour Market, May 2016 Actual age 16-17 and 18-24.</p> <p>Quarterly Statistics based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS). Definition of NEET corresponds to that used in the DfE NEET Quarterly Brief. UK estimate, seasonally adjusted. ONS National Statistics: Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)</p>
OECD	<p>The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) publishes annual NEET estimates. Their Education at a Glance UK country note publication covers young people aged 15-19 and 15-29 in the UK. The full publication can be accessed on their website: OECD website: Education at a glance</p>

7. National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

8. Technical information

A methodology information document accompanies this SFR. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

	Coverage	Last Published	Next Published
NEET and NET quarterly LFS series	January to March 2016	May 2016	August 2016
NEET and NET Participation SFR series	End 2014	June 2015	June 2016
Regional NEET	November 2015 – January 2016 average	May 2016	May 2017

9. Get in touch

Media enquiries

Press Office News Desk, Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

Tel: 020 7783 8300

Other enquiries/feedback

Dexter Roberts

Post-16 Analysis Unit, Education Standards Evidence and Dissemination Division, Department for Education, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

Tel: 02077838567 Email: Post16.STATISTICS@education.gsi.gov.uk

10. Tables

Figure 6: Percentage Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET): England

NEET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2001	8.2%	8.5%	12.3%	8.4%	9.6%	12.9%	14.3%	14.6%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2002	8.1%	9.8%	13.2%	8.9%	10.3%	13.3%	14.6%	14.9%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2003	9.4%	9.6%	13.6%	9.5%	10.8%	13.6%	14.8%	15.0%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2004	9.0%	7.7%	13.6%	8.4%	10.1%	12.4%	13.5%	13.5%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2005	9.2%	9.8%	12.3%	9.5%	10.4%	13.0%	14.1%	14.4%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2006	9.2%	10.8%	14.5%	10.1%	11.5%	14.0%	15.2%	15.3%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2007	8.2%	10.0%	14.6%	9.0%	10.9%	14.1%	15.5%	15.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2008	6.5%	9.5%	14.1%	8.0%	10.0%	13.5%	15.0%	15.2%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2009	6.6%	10.0%	16.8%	8.3%	11.2%	15.5%	17.5%	17.6%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2010	5.1%	8.6%	16.8%	6.9%	10.2%	15.2%	17.6%	17.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2011	5.3%	8.0%	12.4%	6.6%	8.5%	15.3%	17.7%	18.6%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2012	6.2%	9.0%	13.8%	7.6%	9.7%	15.8%	18.0%	18.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2013	4.6%	6.1%	13.8%	5.4%	8.3%	15.0%	17.6%	18.2%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2014	3.2%	4.6%	12.6%	3.8%	6.8%	13.0%	15.4%	15.9%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2015	1.6%	5.7%	13.9%	3.7%	7.1%	12.3%	14.6%	14.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2016	3.4%	5.4%	10.8%	4.4%	6.5%	11.7%	13.6%	14.0%

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 7: Percentage Not in Education or Training (NET): England

NET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2001	16.4%	22.3%	39.5%	19.4%	25.7%	45.7%	53.6%	55.9%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2002	15.1%	21.9%	42.1%	18.4%	26.0%	47.5%	56.3%	58.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2003	16.1%	22.7%	40.9%	19.5%	26.4%	47.0%	55.3%	57.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2004	15.4%	21.0%	40.8%	18.1%	25.7%	47.4%	55.9%	58.4%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2005	16.0%	21.6%	40.3%	18.9%	25.8%	47.5%	55.8%	58.4%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2006	13.7%	20.7%	41.0%	17.4%	25.3%	47.4%	55.9%	58.4%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2007	13.1%	19.0%	38.4%	16.0%	23.4%	47.4%	56.2%	59.1%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2008	10.8%	18.3%	37.3%	14.5%	22.0%	46.7%	55.7%	58.7%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2009	9.3%	18.0%	37.6%	13.7%	21.6%	46.8%	56.2%	59.2%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2010	6.4%	14.4%	34.7%	10.6%	18.4%	44.9%	54.5%	57.6%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2011	6.7%	11.8%	31.4%	9.2%	16.7%	45.4%	55.3%	59.2%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2012	7.3%	12.5%	29.0%	9.9%	16.3%	44.6%	53.9%	57.9%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2013	5.1%	8.8%	29.3%	7.1%	14.7%	44.1%	53.9%	57.8%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2014	3.5%	8.2%	28.1%	5.8%	13.3%	43.4%	53.3%	57.2%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2015	1.8%	9.3%	29.3%	5.6%	13.5%	43.5%	53.6%	57.3%
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2016	4.0%	8.9%	27.6%	6.5%	13.4%	44.2%	54.1%	58.0%

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 8: Number Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET): England

NEET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2001	49,000	51,000	68,000	100,000	168,000	667,000	567,000	499,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2002	51,000	58,000	76,000	109,000	185,000	700,000	591,000	515,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2003	57,000	62,000	81,000	118,000	199,000	732,000	613,000	532,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2004	57,000	46,000	84,000	103,000	187,000	681,000	578,000	494,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2005	58,000	63,000	75,000	122,000	196,000	735,000	613,000	538,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2006	56,000	71,000	92,000	127,000	220,000	801,000	674,000	581,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2007	54,000	62,000	93,000	116,000	209,000	820,000	704,000	611,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2008	42,000	61,000	89,000	104,000	193,000	794,000	691,000	602,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2009	43,000	66,000	110,000	109,000	218,000	915,000	807,000	697,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2010	32,000	59,000	107,000	91,000	198,000	912,000	821,000	714,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2011	35,000	50,000	82,000	85,000	167,000	923,000	838,000	756,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2012	39,000	58,000	89,000	98,000	186,000	955,000	858,000	769,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2013	27,000	42,000	90,000	68,000	158,000	906,000	838,000	748,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2014	20,000	28,000	80,000	48,000	128,000	776,000	728,000	649,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2015	10,000	37,000	88,000	46,000	134,000	740,000	693,000	605,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2016	20,000	35,000	65,000	55,000	121,000	705,000	650,000	585,000

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 9: Number Not in Education or Training (NET): England

NET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2001	98,000	134,000	217,000	231,000	448,000	2,365,000	2,134,000	1,917,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2002	95,000	130,000	244,000	225,000	469,000	2,501,000	2,276,000	2,032,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2003	97,000	146,000	244,000	243,000	487,000	2,530,000	2,287,000	2,043,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2004	97,000	126,000	252,000	223,000	475,000	2,610,000	2,387,000	2,135,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2005	101,000	140,000	245,000	241,000	486,000	2,673,000	2,432,000	2,187,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2006	82,000	137,000	262,000	219,000	482,000	2,700,000	2,480,000	2,218,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2007	86,000	119,000	245,000	204,000	449,000	2,755,000	2,551,000	2,306,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2008	71,000	117,000	236,000	188,000	425,000	2,750,000	2,561,000	2,325,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2009	60,000	119,000	245,000	179,000	424,000	2,773,000	2,594,000	2,350,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2010	40,000	98,000	220,000	138,000	358,000	2,687,000	2,549,000	2,328,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2011	45,000	75,000	208,000	119,000	327,000	2,738,000	2,618,000	2,411,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2012	46,000	81,000	187,000	127,000	314,000	2,697,000	2,570,000	2,383,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2013	30,000	60,000	191,000	90,000	280,000	2,661,000	2,572,000	2,381,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2014	23,000	50,000	178,000	72,000	251,000	2,586,000	2,514,000	2,335,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2015	11,000	61,000	185,000	71,000	257,000	2,624,000	2,552,000	2,367,000
Jan-Mar (Q1) 2016	24,000	58,000	167,000	82,000	249,000	2,668,000	2,586,000	2,419,000

Source: Labour Force Survey.



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enquiries Post-16 Analysis Unit,
Education Standards Evidence and Dissemination Division,
Department for Education, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.
Tel: 0870 000 2288 Email: Post16.STATISTICS@education.gsi.gov.uk

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